

Message Text

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TAGS: PDIP, PFOR, GR, US

SUBJ: FURTHER REACTION TO AMBAASSADOR SCHAUFLE'S SFRC APPEARANCE

REF: ATHENS 6532

1. AMBASSADOR SCHAUFLE'S APPEARANCE BEFORE THE SFRC REMAINS PROMINENT IN THE GREEK PRESS TODAY (JULY 15). WHILE THE GOVERNMENT-RUN RADIO AND TV NEWS PROGRAMS HAVE DROPPED THE STORY. THIS MORNING ALL ATHENS NEWS PAPERS CARRY FRONT PAGE ACCOUNTS WHICH ARE IN VARYING DEGREES CRITICAL OF AMBASSADOR SCHAUFLE, INTRODUCE DOUBT AS TO THE STATUS OF HIS ACCREDITATION, REPORT ON A STATEMENT BY A GOG SOURCE AND PUBLIC COMMENT BY THE POLITICAL OPPOSITION.

2. ACCORING TO THE SEMI-OFFICIAL ATHENS NEWS AGENCY (ANA), A GOVERNMENT SOURCE SAID, "THE GOVERNMENT IS AWAITING THE OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE DISCUSSION IN THE SENATE COMMITTEE. MEANWHILE IT HAS TAKEN APPROPRIATE STEPS." GEORGE MAVROS, LEADER OF THE MAJOR OPPOSITION UNION OF THE DEMOCRATIC CENTER ISSUED A STATEMENT TO THE EFFECT THAT AS PUBLISHED AMBASSADOR SCHAUFLE'S COMMENTS
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PAGE 02 ATHENS 06544 151010Z

SEEMED TO SUGGEST CHANGING THE STATUS OF THE AEGEAN FRONTIERS. IF THE AMBASSADOR ACTUALLY MADE THE ALLEGED COMMENTS, CONTINUED MAVROS, HIS TASK IN GREECE "WOULD BE DIFFICULT" AND WOULD CAUSE US-GREEK RELATIONS TO DETERIORATE. PASOK'S ANDREAS PAPANDREOU CHARGED THE AMBASSADOR'S COMMENTS NOT ONLY CHALLENGED GREEK SOVEREIGN RIGHTS, BUT SHOWED THE US WAS BEHIND TURKISH EXPANSIONISM. HE CALLED ON THE GOG TO

REJECT AMBASSADOR SCHAUFLE WHO, SAID PAPANDREOU, WAS NOT WELCOME IN GREECE EVEN AS A VISITOR. TE KKE-INTERIOR AND THE UNITED DEMOCRATIC LEFT (EDA) LEKEWISE CONDEMNED THE AMBASSADOR'S TESTIMONY AND CALLED HIS APPOINTMENT UNACCEPTABLE. SEVERAL PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS HAVE ALSO ISSUED PUBLIC RELEASES ATTACKING THE ALLEGED CONTENT OF AMBASSADOR SCHAUFLE'S TESTIMONY.

3. MOST PRESS REPORTING CENTERED ON THESE PUBLIC STATEMENTS. INTRUDUCORY MATERIAL VARIED SLIGHTLY, WITH PRO-GOVERNMENT ACROPOLIS STRESSING THE GOG WAS TAKING APPROPRIATE MEASURES TO SEEK CLARIFICATION. CUMMUNIST (KKE-EXTERIOR) UNDERLINED THAT AMBASSADOR SCHAUFLE WAS COMING TO GREECE AS THE AGENT OF NATO. LEBERAL, OPPOSITION TO VIMA EDITORIALIZED THAT THE AMBASSADOR REPRESENTED THE INTERESTS OF BOTH TURKISH EXPANSIONISM AND THE SINISTER FORCES OF THE PENTAGON. ULTRA RIGHTIST ELEFTHEROS COSMOS NOTED THE UNUSUAL DELAY IN MAKING PUBLIC THE OFFICIAL TEXT OF THE SCHAUFLE TESTIMONY. SEVERAL NEWSPAPERS CONNECTED THE STRONG REACTION IN GREECE TO SEVERAL RECENT BOMBING ATTEMPTS AGAINST TARGETS WITH AMERICAN ASSOCIATIONS.

4. PRESS HEADLINES ARE AS FOLLOWS: KKE-INTERIOR AVGHI: "AFTER THE DECLARATIONS BY THE NEW US AMBASSADOR--SCHAUFLE IS INADMISSIBLE FOR THE GREEKS-HE CONTESTS THE BORDERS OF THE COUNTRY AND INTERVENES IN FAVOR OF UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 ATHENS 06544 151010Z

ANKARA'S VEIWS ON THE AEGEAN;" ELEFTHEROS COSMOS: "GOVERNMENT AND OPPOSITION PREOCCUPIED WITH THE STATEMENTS OF THE NEW US AMBASSADOR-HOWEVER THE EXACT TEXT OF WHAT MR. SCHAUFLE SAID IS EXPRECTED;" INDEPENDENT KATHIMERINI: "IF THE GOVERNMENT DOES NOT CONSIDER SATISFACTORY HIS STATEMENTS-THE APPROVAL OF THE NEW AMERICAN AMBASSDOR IS OPTIONAL-THE OPPOSITION PARTIES CHARACTERIZE HIM UNDESIRABLE;" PRO-GOVERNMENT ACROPOLIS: "GREEK DEMARCH ABOUT THE STATEMENTS OF THE NEW AMERICAN AMBASSADOR ON THE AEGEAN-FULL TEXT OF SENATE DISCUSSION HAS BEEN REQUESTED;" KKE-EXTERIOR RIZOSPASTIS: "INAUGURATES HIS MISSION WITH CYNICAL STATEMENTS TO THE COUNTRY'S DETRIMENT-THE NEW AMBASSADOR IS THE ENVOY OF NATO-IMMEDIATE AIM: THE RE-JOINING OF GREECE TO NATO -GOG NOT KEE TO TAKE STAND AGAINST SCHAUFLE'S PROVOCATION;" TO VIMA: "AFTER THE STORNG REACTION IT IS DOUBTFUL IF THE NEW AMERICAN AMBASSADOR WILL BE ACCEPTED-STATMENTS BY MAVROS, PAPANDREOU-BOMBS AT THE PX AND AMERICAN EXPRESS."

5. OUR COMMENTS WILL BE SENT AS SEPTTEL.
KUBISCH

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